

****430 – Qualifications and Training Requirements of Instructional Paraprofessionals:** Although NCLB was superceded by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in 2015, requirements relating to qualifications of paraprofessionals remain a part of the law. This updated policy reflects changes to the state regulations governing qualifications of paraprofessionals made in 2017. Outdated language from NCLB is removed.

Paraprofessionals employed by this school district must work under the direct supervision of a properly certificated staff member for the areas they are providing support. Paraprofessionals cannot serve as the teacher of record and may not provide direct instruction to a student unless the paraprofessional is working under the direct supervision of a teacher. In order to serve as an instructional paraprofessional in this school district, individuals must meet the requirements set forth below. Individuals who do not meet the qualification requirements will be considered school or classroom aides.

QUALIFICATIONS OF INSTRUCTIONAL PARAPROFESSIONALS

Every instructional paraprofessional hired by the district must have a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma (GED) and:

1. Demonstrate through a state approved academic assessment knowledge of and the ability to assist in instructing or preparing students to be instructed as applicable to the academic areas they are providing support in; or
2. Have completed at least two (2) years of study at an accredited postsecondary educational institution; or
3. Obtained an associate's or higher postsecondary degree.

The district will train all paraprofessionals based on Idaho paraprofessional standards adopted by the State Department of Education.

EXCEPTION FOR NON-INSTRUCTIONAL PARAPROFESSIONALS

The requirements set forth in this policy do not apply to non-instructional paraprofessionals, including, but not limited to, providing technical support for computers, providing personal care services or clerical duties. Additionally, the qualifications do not apply to staff members who primarily work as translators and are proficient in English and another language, or have instructional support duties that consist solely of conducting parental involvement activities.



LEGAL REFERENCE:

34 CFR 200.58

IDAPA 08.02.02.007.10

ADOPTED:

AMENDED:

**Language in text set forth in italics is optional.*